PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Attorney Docket No: LAM2P216 on of: Examiner: Unassigned Smith et al. Application No: 09/747,660 Group Art Unit: 1746 Date: March 12, 2001 Filed: December 22, 2000 For: WAFER BACKSIDE PLATE FOR USE IN A SPIN, RINSE, AND DRY MODULE AND METHODS) FOR MAKING AND IMPLEMENTING THE SAME on March 12, 2001. Signed:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated as shown below.

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Applicant(s) hereby petition for a _____ month(s) extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action. Applicant(s) believe that no (additional) Extension of Time is required; however, if it is determined \boxtimes that such an extension is required, Applicant(s) hereby petition that such an extension be granted and authorize the Commissioner to charge the required fees for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136 to Deposit Account No. 50-0805. Enclosed is our Check No. _____ in the amount of \$____ to cover the additional claim fee and/or extension of time fees. \boxtimes

If the required fees are missing or any additional fees are required to facilitate filing the enclosed response, please charge such fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. LAM2P216). A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

> Respectfully submitted, MARTINE PENILLA & KIM, LLP

Albert S. Penilla, Esq. Registration No. 39,487

710 Lakeway Drive, Suite 170 Sunnyvale, CA 94085 Telephone: (408) 749-6900

Customer No. 25920

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231 on March 12, 2001.

Signed: Kay Harlow

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Before examination on the merits, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, line 8, please add the following paragraph: